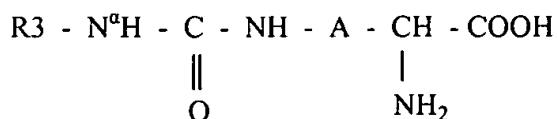
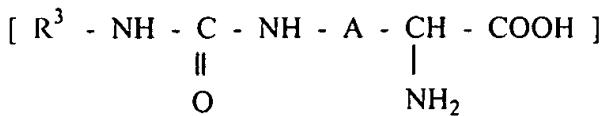


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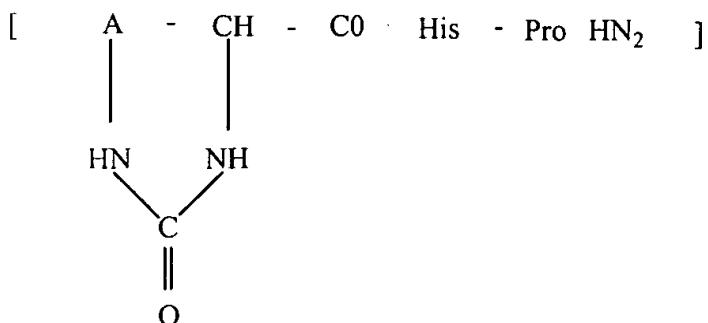
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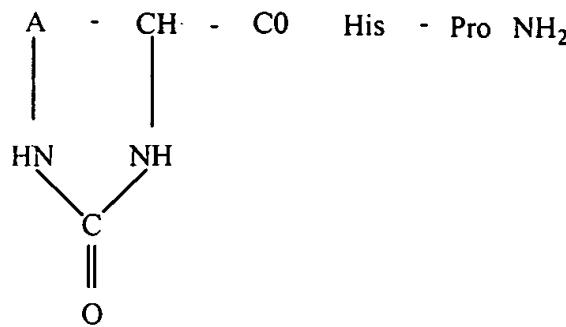
in which A represents a bivalent group consisting of a linear carbon chain formed from 4 to 8 carbon atoms, which chain is optionally substituted by one or a number of groups chosen from C_1 - C_3 alkyl groups and functional groups comprising at least one oxygen or sulphur atom [such as carboxyl, acyl, hydroxyl, alkoxy or mercapto group,] and in which $[R^3 - NH]$ $R^3-N^{\alpha}H$ represents an α -amino acid or a peptide comprising the α -amino acid and N^{α} is a nitrogen atom attached to the α -carbon of the α -amino acid.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

-- 11. (Amended) A peptide of general formula



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in which A is a bivalent group consisting of a linear carbon chain formed from 2 carbon atoms, which chain is [optionally] substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of [C₁ - C₃ alkyl groups and] a functional [groups] group comprising at least one [oxygen or] sulphur atom and a functional group comprising at least one oxygen atom selected from carboxyl, acyl, hydroxyl and alkoxy group.